

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image communication apparatus comprising:  
means for generating a command, which controls a  
communication partner, to be transmitted through a  
5 communication line; and

means for preventing the communication partner  
from operating uncorrectly according to the command  
which is transmitted after a predetermined delay time  
of the communication line.

2. An image communication apparatus according to  
claim 1, wherein said preventing means includes:

means for preventing said generating means from  
generating another command at least within said  
15 predetermined delay time after said generating means  
generates the command.

3. An image communication apparatus according to  
claim 1, further comprising:

20 means for receiving a status according to the  
transmitted command from the communication partner,

wherein said preventing means prevents said  
generating means from generating another command until  
said receiving means receives the status.

25 4. An image communication apparatus according to  
claim 1, wherein said communication line is a public line.

5. An image communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said communication line is a wireless communication channel.

5 6. An image communication system for transmitting and receiving an image via a communication line, comprising:

an image photographing unit capable of being controlled in response to control information sent via  
10 the communication line;

supply means for supplying an image signal from said image photographing unit to an image display unit so as to display an image taken by said image photographing unit;

15 designating means for designating a position on an image displayed on said image display unit; and

control information informing means for informing, via the communication line, said image photographing unit of information for changing the photographing  
20 state of said image photographing unit, on the basis of information of the position designated by said designating means.

7. An image communication system according to  
25 claim 6, further comprising:

photographing state inspecting means for inspecting the state of said image photographing unit

taking an image displayed on said image display unit,

wherein on the basis of the inspection result of  
said photographing state inspecting means, said control  
information informing means informs, via the

5 communication line, said image photographing unit of  
information for changing a photographing direction of  
said image photographing unit so as to move the  
position designated by said position designating means  
to a predetermined position of a display screen of said  
10 image display unit.